

BY EMAIL



18 March 2020

Dear Colleague,

COVID-19 – supporting the NHS clinical response

We are writing in response to the latest developments in the spread of COVID-19. As you might expect, there is likely to be a need for significantly more experienced clinicians to be available to the NHS over the next few months.

We are therefore writing to ask if you would agree to be seconded back to the NHS from your academic work, for the immediate future. We do not know how long that would be for – but we can assure you that it will be for no longer than is necessary.

While we cannot speak for the universities and academic funders, we understand they would support academic trainees devoting themselves fully to clinical work at this time. In particular, please do not be concerned about any deadlines for submitting your academic work, as appropriate pauses or extensions will be made.

Please do speak to your research funder first about what approach you should take, but otherwise **we would be grateful if you could contact local HEE office/Deanery as soon as possible to say if you are willing to help, so we can factor this into the regional contingency planning.**

Many thanks for your help.

Yours Sincerely,



Professor Wendy Reid

Executive Director of Education and Quality
& National Medical Director
Health Education England